

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director (Intelligence)

SUBJECT: Report on Trip to London by Chief, Foreign
Broadcast Information Division, Office of
Operations

1. There are attached to this memorandum:

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 - a. A brief report on [] recent trip to London;
 - b. The Minutes covering the 7th Meeting of the FBIS/HBC Monitoring Services Coordination Committee;
 - c. Various memoranda and letters from consumers substantiating our claim that the Baltic coverage is of value; and
 - d. Proposed letter to Mr. Patrick Dean from the DCI.
2. I would appreciate having items under subparagraphs 1b and 1c returned to this Office.
3. I have approved the attached Minutes of the FBIS/HBC Meeting and this fact will be communicated to HBC through FBIS.
4. HBC is aware of our position against direct subsidy and in fact intimated that they would not expect direct financial assistance. Therefore, I believe that a letter from the Director to Mr. Patrick Dean will not result in a request for subsidy. It is recommended that the Director sign the attached letter to Mr. Dean.

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Deputy Assistant Director for Operations

Enclosures

OAD/O: [] hbd (18 Jun 54)
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I have recently studied the Minutes of the Foreign Broadcast Information Service -- EBC Monitoring Service Joint Coordinating Committee Meeting held at Caversham Park on 4 June 1954. This letter is prompted by a paragraph of the Minutes dealing with the EBC Stockholm Project for monitoring broadcasts of the Baltic States and certain Soviet Regional stations unmonitorable at other FBIS -- EBC, MS facilities. In essence, the EBC states that for financial reasons it is likely that the Stockholm Project will be abandoned or a reduction will be made in other radio monitoring coverage. I fully realize the importance of financial considerations, but the universal interest of intelligence organizations of the United States Government in radio monitoring as a source of information compels me to view with concern any proposed reduction in the scope of monitoring by our two services.

I believe that monitoring must be maintained on a global basis, although major attention may be directed toward critical areas. We all recognize that the struggle in which we are engaged is world wide and that trouble may break out suddenly in remote and previously quiet areas. Further, the monitoring of radio broadcasts to or from presently non-critical areas may provide us with indications in regard to intentions and possible courses of action in critical areas. Therefore, since monitoring cannot be reinstituted quickly once it has been cut off, I feel that it would be unwise to eliminate or substantially curtail monitoring of the less critical areas at this time.

The expression of intent on the part of the EBC Monitoring Service to advise the FBIS of proposed adjustment in its monitoring commitments before making any major change is greatly appreciated. I shall be interested in the final outcome of your discussion.

Patrick H. Dean, Esquire
CMB
The Foreign Office
London SW 1, England

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